

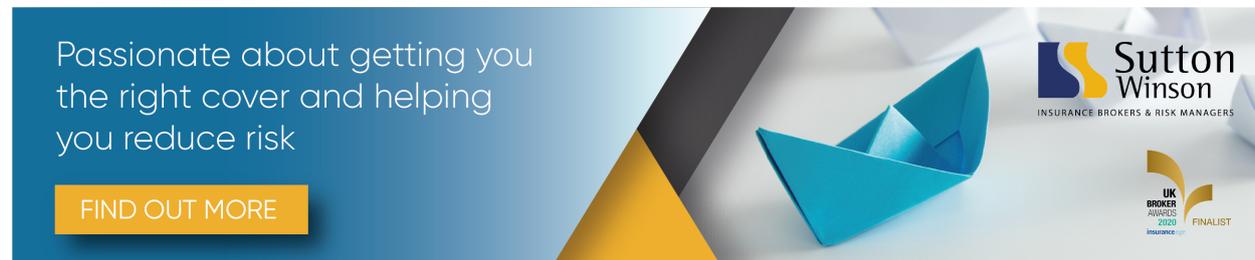
Burgess Hill

BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

There's been encouraging news from across the whole of the UK regarding the vaccination rollout, and likewise in Mid Sussex, according to news from Mims Davies, the target for all over 80s to be vaccinated by 31st January is still on track, to be closely followed by all in the first 4 priority cohorts by 15th February.

We are all aware of the recent spat between Astra Zeneca and the EU regarding vaccine supplies, and can only wonder how that's going to play out. Hopefully Sanofi's offer to Pfizer to manufacture their similar vaccine will help boost supplies across the whole of Europe.

[Mims Davies for Covid update in Mid Sussex](#)



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INSURANCE BROKERS & RISK MANAGERS

UK BROKER AWARDS 2020 FINALIST

Association news

Our exciting news is the very imminent launch of the new BHBPA website – we are hoping to 'go live' during the course of next week. Currently, we are collecting feedback from members of the Board and Steering Committee.

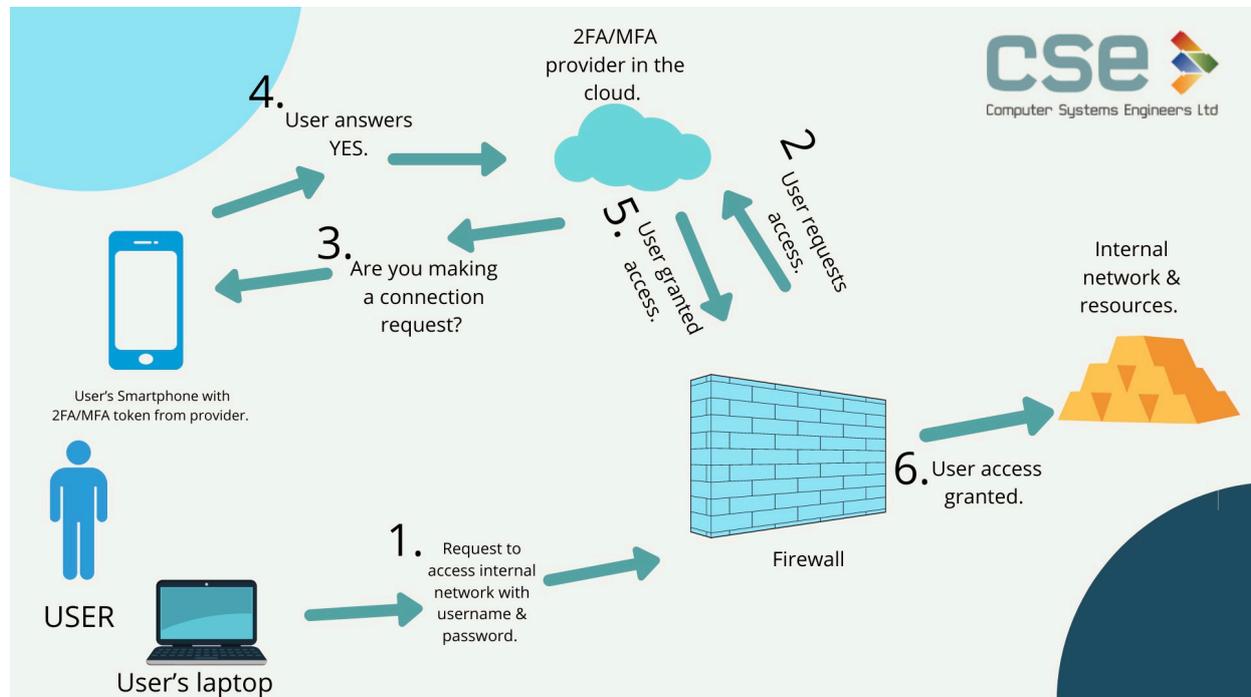
A big thanks to Steve Willis of Steve Willis Training Centres for being our first 'Meet the Locals' interviewee. The video recording of our Zoom call will be featured on the Homepage of the new website. We also have some interesting pieces on Innovations and Community Spirit - the other two new regular features. Do let us have your stories and nominations as to who to interview in "Meet the Locals".

Perhaps slightly less exciting, the AGM minutes and amended Constitution, will both soon be finalised and posted on the website for anyone to review, especially if you missed the general meeting.

Cybercrime is growing in both intelligence & quantity!

The Government recently reported a 26% increase in cybercrime during 2020 compared to the previous year, which is most likely due to cyber criminals taking advantage of business vulnerabilities amidst the Covid-19 pandemic.

A realistic additional protective measure is to secure your business's online accounts with Two Factor & Multi Factor Authentication, which makes it harder for criminals to gain access to your accounts and internal network. The diagram depicts the multi-stream concept.



If you haven't already done so, do talk to your service provider to find out how you can implement Two Factor or Multi Factor Authentication. And if you need more help, contact Peter Hook at CSE on 01444 238070 or email: peter.hook@cse-ltd.co.uk



[More information...](#)

Local members do need your support

Just in case last week's article passed you by, a reminder to support some of our members during these stricken times.

For example, if you are considering some Audio Visual installation work later this year, please direct your enquiries to keithupton@tsprofessional.co.uk

And while the schools are on an extended close because of the pandemic, remember BHBPA member Paper Plus, who's core business is supplying schools. They have now expanded their range of essentials including PPE & Janitorial supplies. Please call 01444 238 050 or email sales@paperplusuk.com



A date for your calendar

Sussex Chamber of Commerce are inviting businesses to attend a new event which offers networking with a difference, bringing together attendees from all their Affiliated Chambers and Business Associations, including of course the BHBPA.

This virtual networking session will be designed to enable delegates to support each other, whilst exchanging ideas and information and meeting new contacts.

The event itself will take place over Zoom on **Wednesday 24th March 2021**, from 3pm to 4pm. More details to follow.

What's behind exporting & importing angst?

We've recently highlighted challenges with moving freight by road to and from the EU. Kate Lester, CEO of logistics firm Diamond Logistics recently offered her summary as to what's been happening to cause the recent agonies with freight.

Her 3 key reasons why problems are occurring:

1. The deal came too late. Despite many logistics and haulage businesses doing as much as they could, ultimately, they had under a week to amend systems and update paperwork. This involves IT development work which takes time.
2. It is incredibly busy at the ports so by road to and from Europe is problematic – with new customs issues and COVID-19 testing slowing things down further – the logistics industry is under considerable pressure.
3. International clients have only truly understood the customers' impact retrospectively – and are either deciding the UK isn't a worthwhile market until it's sorted out – or have moved goods to the EU for fulfilment.

And the 6 things to alleviate the challenges? (If you haven't already done so!)

1. Ensure you have your EORI number and apply for your Ireland XI number now if you deliver to Ireland.
2. Send by air, not road.
3. Use a logistics supplier which has built in/system led customs documentation. This way, as long as you have your EORI number, you don't have to worry about the documentation (as it is done for you - so she says!)
4. Hold more stock if your suppliers are EU based to safe proof against future delays.
5. Use logistics providers who use multiple carriers to distribute goods. So if one fails or stops/reduces services, you have multiple choices.
6. Communicate with your clients, inform them in advance of potential delays. 24hr

delivery to the EU – which was once standard – has become a huge challenge.

Having spoken to a few BHBPA members in recent days about their freight, it does appear some deliveries are getting through now, albeit more bumps are to be expected.

Government issued news

Normal caveat applies, this section is not exhaustive, but hopefully is still helpful.

Following the UK's exit from Europe on 31st December 2020, HMRC have published a UK Transition edition of the **Employer Bulletin**.

This contains a roundup of information and support and includes the new rules for:

- trading with Europe;
- business travellers;
- social security co-ordination.

The next employer bulletin is scheduled for February 2021.

[Employer bulletin...](#)



[More information is available on GOV.UK](#)

HMRC has also announced that Self-Assessment 'customers' will not receive a penalty for filing their 2019-20 tax return late, as long as they file online by 28th February. That said, HMRC is still encouraging people to file by 31st January if possible, and points out that people still need to pay their Self-Assessment tax bill by 31st January as interest will be charged from 1st February on any outstanding liabilities.

Finally, the deadline for claiming the third SEISS grant is here - if you are eligible, you must make your claim by EOD **29th January 2021**. Information about the fourth SEISS grant will be provided on **3rd March**.

Mill Road Gasworks extended to 10th February

Due to engineering difficulties onsite, Southern Gas Networks have agreed with West Sussex County Council to extend their works until Wednesday 10th February. The temporary traffic lights will remain in place until the work is completed.

[More information...](#)

Latest Update from C2C

Coast to Capital have written to us with an update on the support Coast to Capital LEP and the C2C Growth Hub Team are providing to businesses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the post UK transition period from the EU.

C2C are supporting work on a Skills and Labour Market Impact Assessment as well as a £2 million European Social Fund which is now available for the region. There's also been work on a White Paper for FE & Skills for Jobs.

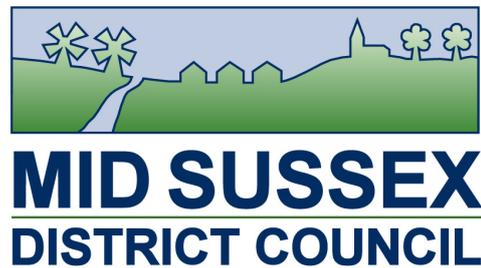
Lastly, they are also looking at how to best support and showcase International Women's Day which takes place on **Monday 8th March**. Please email Helen Weedon regarding any IWD events - indeed are there any specifics regarding IWD events in Burgess Hill do you know?

[More information...](#)

[Email Helen Weedon re IWD](#)

News from MSDC

Just before Xmas, MSDC issued a survey, primarily aimed at firms that had applied for business grants. The Council wishes to thank all those that have already completed the survey, and would like to prompt those who haven't already done so to please take part.



The recent webinar led by Cllr Jonathan Ash-Edwards, leader of MSDC and Kevin Stewart, Revenue & Benefits Unit Leader is still available for playback, and the revamped MSDC Business Grants website remains the 'go to' site for financial support.

[Business Survey](#)

[YouTube playback](#)

[MSDC Business Grants](#)

Members enjoy discounted rates for training

Remember to ensure you get your discount through the BHBPA's affiliate membership of the Sussex Chamber for Commerce



when booking any of the Chamber's training. Indeed, some courses are free of charge, including:

Level 2 Cert.
Mental Health
First Aid &
Advocacy

Level 2 Cert. in
Equality &
Diversity

Level 2 Cert. in
Digital Skills for
Work

Level 2 Cert. in
Lean Organisation
Mgt. techniques

A boost for the local rural economy

Planning permission has been granted for a brand new sustainable shopping and dining venue that will be built at Ote Hall Farm, Wivelsfield, right here in the heart of mid Sussex.

The Ote Hall Farm Shop and Tea Room will provide an opportunity for locals to experience truly home-grown produce while also creating employment in the community.



As the popularity of locally sourced, sustainable food continues to grow, the Farm Shop will become a hub for local farmers and food producers. It will include butchery and deli counters, offering everything from craft drinks to fresh, frozen and pantry goods along with weigh-your-own dry ingredients.

The farm is currently run by Carola Godman Irvine who said: *"We are delighted to have received such widespread backing. Ote Hall would not have survived as a purely traditionally run farm without having already diversified with business units and as a wedding venue. The farm shop project is essential to future-proof the farm financially, now and into the next century."*

[More information...](#)

Ridgeview, as seen on TV

Jamie Oliver and best mate Jimmy Doherty tried their hand at becoming winemakers on a visit to BHBPA member Ridgeview. Filmed before the pandemic in the Summer of 2019 as a part of their Friday Night Feast program, Jamie and Jimmy visited as part of their quest to explore English sparkling wine.



Watch as Jamie & Jimmy join Ridgeview's Head Winemaker Simon Roberts and try their hand at blending the base wines. Lucky Simon then had to judge who had created the best blend! The program airs on **Friday 29th January at 8pm on Channel 4**

"Without Prejudice Conversations" revisited

Due to high demand for places on last week's webinar, Sherrards are running it again on **Tuesday 2nd February**. There is also an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Training now available at a promotional offer price of only £80 per delegate. For more information either email Sarah on sarah@sherrardslaw.com or call 01273 834120.



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New Partner Appointments at MHA Carpenter Box

Sussex-based chartered accountants MHA Carpenter Box has signalled its continued investment in service expansion in 2021 with the appointment of two new partners within its Tax Services team.



[More information...](#)

Rachel Pearce has been promoted to Partner from her current position of Tax Director while Anthony Davies joins the practice as Partner at Gatwick following the merger of his tax advice and planning business with MHA Carpenter Box.

5 Minute Careers Video for Local School

Linda Dorgan, Careers Leader at BH Academy wrote with a novel request for help. She is trying to create new activities for her Year 8 students to help them think about what's involved in creating a product. She wants students to understand the whole journey from primary materials from say the farm or mining, through purification and refining, on into manufacturing, distribution, advertising & sales and to the consumer.

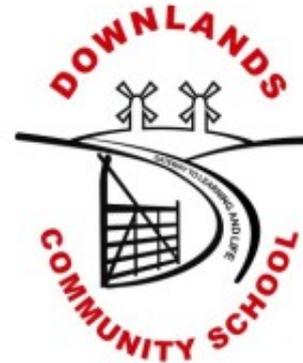
Linda is keen to bring real life examples from local business to her students and says *"it would be amazing if one of the BHBPA businesses would be able to create a five-minute video talking about how their products are produced, who is involved and perhaps (in time) a tour of their facility in Burgess Hill"*.

If any member is interested and willing to help by creating or sharing an existing 'cradle to grave' video of their product development, that would be great.

Email Linda
at L.Dorgan@theburgesshillacademy.org.uk



Laptops for Lockdown @ Downlands Community School



Downlands Community School have been the grateful recipients of over £7,400 from the local community to enable some students to have a school laptop at home. However, despite this generosity, the school are still in need of many more laptops and the hope is that friends in the local business community will feel able to provide much needed extra support.

[Donations...](#)

[More information...](#)

Warehouse space needed by our local hospice

The retail side of St Peters & St James hospice is looking for a warehouse.

Around about 5,000 sq ft or more, they need some office space so as to create a distribution centre.

Ideally they'd like to be on or around the Victoria Business Park. Can anyone help?

If you can, please contact Wendy Agate on wagate@stpjhospice.org



St Peter & St James Hospice

Hospice care in the heart of Sussex



Closing Remarks

It has been a busy week this week, what with handling the annual subscription process, progressing the new website and pulling together open ends from the AGM.

I had a really good chat with both Mark Jackson our new Chair and Steve Powell our new Marketing Officer and in the coming weeks I will make sure there are some proper introductions to all the members via this newsletter as well as the new website.

If you haven't sent me your "CONFIRMED" email regarding the adoption of the new Articles please do so if you are a member. This all needs to be finalised fairly soon.

In the meantime, have a lovely weekend.

Questions, comments or contributions to share? Please email martyn@bhbpa.co.uk

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